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MUSK-OXEN BORN IN HERD  
TRANSPLANTED TO ALASKA

For the first time in a century there are new-born musk-oxen in Alaska, according to a report to the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Two young animals were born April 29 in the herd transplanted to the Territory in 1930.

Musk-oxen, according to statements by natives, practically disappeared from Alaska about 100 years ago, and there seem to be no authentic records of their existence in the Territory from then until the fall of 1930. In April 1927 the Territorial Legislature in a memorial to Congress urged an appropriation for re-establishing musk-oxen in Alaska. Under the active leadership of Senator Peter Norbeck, of South Dakota, and Representative C. C. Dickinson, of Iowa, an appropriation was made, and the Bureau of Biological Survey undertook the task.

Thirty-four young musk-oxen were transplanted from northeastern Greenland to the Territory in the summer and fall of 1930. These were captured by a Norwegian collector, and after transshipment in Norway traveled on an ocean liner to New York. Following a 30-day quarantine period, the animals were taken by rail to Seattle, thence by ship to Seward, Alaska, and again by rail to the reindeer experiment station maintained by the Biological Survey near Fairbanks. They were subsequently placed on a suitable range, and although there have been a few casualties, the herd has prospered. Now that the imported animals have matured and are reproducing, Biological Survey officials express the hope that the purpose of the transplanting will be completely realized.